

**PrairieCat Technical Services Committee
Draft Minutes
June 11, 2026**

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonny (PC), Brozovich (RP), Chapman (RL), Dean (WL), Evans (SY), Finnerty (NC), Groth (EM), Landis (PC), Lemke (DK), Sangston (MA), Slanicky (PC), Tedder (PC), Zanelli (PC).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Linnell (WL), Nissen (RU), Schriener (RU)

GUESTS: Berkley (MX), Brechler (LP), Brown (FR), Burdelik (NL), Eychaner (CH), Fane (LP), Fine (PR), Grega (CC), Hancock (LP), Hotchkiss (LP), Jinkins (CH), Johnson (LP), Jones (RP), Kozinski (DK), Lawruk (SE), McSweeney (HD), Mladic (LP), Molinari (MK), Navarro (TC), Ni (KR), Spsychalski (OR), Swanson (CC), Thomas (RP), Totton Schwarz (WO), Walwyn (NL).

1. Call to order/welcome

2. Roll call for attendance

3. Review agenda for addition/changes

No changes were made to the agenda.

4. Approve minutes for February 12, 2026, Technical Services Committee meeting

The following motion was made:

- **Motion to approve the minutes as written:** Evans (SY)
- **Seconded by:** Groth (EM)
- **Vote result:** Motion passed with no opposition

5. Guest speaker – Pamela Thomas, Bibliographic Grant Manager, Illinois Heartland Library System

Tedder (PC) introduced Pamela Thomas is the bibliographic grant manager at the Illinois Heartland Library System and oversees the Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC). Pam gave a brief update on the Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC). They provide free cataloging for Illinois authors, local history items, genealogy, and special collections.



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During this calendar year, they have done 948 original records and enhanced 1,492 records in OCLC. The CMC staff have been trained to merge duplicate records and create authority records in OCLC. The CMC provides cataloging training and you can register for classes in L2. The CMC has been assisting with PrairieCat database cleanup since 2019 and their help is greatly appreciated.

For items that need original cataloging, please send them in the RAILS delivery to: **SWSB-4, Attn: Catalogers, for the CMC.**

You can find more information about the Cataloging Maintenance Center (CMC) on their website at <https://www.illinoisheartland.org/services/cmc>.

Questions can be sent to Pam at pthomas@ilinoisheartland.org.

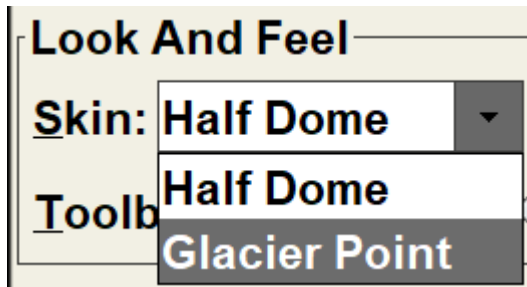
6. Pending products/updates and discussion

6.1. Encore Catalog - Sunsetting July 2026

PrairieCat will no longer host the Encore Catalog (search.prairiecat.info) effective July 1, 2026. Support and development for Encore will not be available. The Vega Discover catalog is the primary catalog. Please ensure any links to the Encore Catalog are removed. This will not impact SMS messages for patrons as that is provided through the WebPacPro classic catalog.

6.2. Sierra Upgraded to Version 6.5 - May 19

Sierra was upgraded to version 6.5 on May 19, 2026. One of the most notable changes is the lack of mountains in the background. If you want to change the look of Sierra, you can go to Admin, Settings, Display, and under Look And Feel, there is the option of choosing either Half Dome (dark background) or Glacier Point (light background).



6.3. Reminders regarding cataloging forms and OCLC submissions

To help ensure timely processing of enhancement and original cataloging requests, please make sure all request forms are completed fully using information taken directly from the item in hand. The information entered on the form should reflect the physical item being cataloged and should not be copied from external resources such as Amazon, publisher websites, or vendor records. There is a designated area on the form where URLs or links to outside resources may be included for reference.

Incomplete forms, missing details, or unclear images can delay review and may require additional follow-up before work can proceed. Please ensure all required images are included, clear, readable, and uncropped before submitting requests.

Searching by standard numbers such as ISBNs alone is not sufficient to determine a match. Just because a search returns results does not necessarily mean the bibliographic record matches the item in hand. Please verify that enough bibliographic elements are present to confidently determine a match, including title, author or creator, publisher, publication date, edition, format, pagination or runtime, and identifiers when applicable. If there are not enough matching elements to confidently determine that the record represents the item in hand, please do not request that the record be pulled into PrairieCat. Records missing key bibliographic elements, or records displayed entirely in capital letters, may indicate that the record is incomplete and requires updating. In those cases, submission of an enhancement request form may be necessary.

Please also monitor your email, including spam or junk folders, for any follow-up questions from cataloging staff, as some requests cannot proceed until additional details or replacement images are received. Providing complete and accurate

information at the time of submission helps reduce delays and minimizes the need for additional correspondence.

7. New topics

No new topics were presented.

8. Committee elections for FY27

Kristi Fane (LP) was elected to serve on a tier 1 public seat, Lisa Elsner (HC) was elected to serve on an at large seat, and Tricia Dean was elected to serve on an at large seat. All three terms expires on June 30, 2029. Congratulations and all and thank you to everyone who serves and has served on the committee.

9. Member events

9.1. PrairieCat Ask Me Anything with PrairieCat Director – Monday June 15, 2026, 10a-11a via Zoom

Join PrairieCat Director Carolyn Coulter for an open house to ask any questions you might have related to PrairieCat. This is an informal virtual meeting with the opportunity to discuss what is going on at PrairieCat, share your feedback, and ask questions.

9.2. PrairieCat IPLAR Q&A – Monday, June 15, 2026, 2-3p via Zoom

You can get your IPLAR questions answered at the PrairieCat IPLAR Q&A session on Monday, June 15, 2026, 2-3pm via Zoom.

9.3. PrairieCat Users Group Day – Sep. 24 & 25, 2026 – Virtual conference

This year's PrarieCat Users Group Day (PUG Day) will be a virtual conference on September 24 & 25, 2026.

[Visit the PUG Day site for session descriptions and the full schedule.](#)

10. BYPT “Bring Your Problems Time”



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No problems were presented.

11. Questions, comments, etc.

The Dakota School District will be withdrawing from PrairieCat and all of their holdings will be deleted in July, 1026.

12. Ideas for “Did you know?”

Please email any suggestions to the PrairieCat staff for “Did you know?”.

13. Adjournment

14. Next meeting – Thursday, August 13, 2026, via Zoom @ 9:30 AM